(c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Centre to stop the sexual exploitation of women in jails in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken *suo-motu* cognizance of a press report alleging sexual exploitation of a lady prisoner in connivance with the lady guards posted in Hardwar District Jail by the higher officers. The NHRC has called for a report from the State Government of Uttaranchal. The NHRC has also directed its Director General (Investigation) to investigate the matter.

(c) 'Prisons' is a State subject as per the Constitution of India. Prison Administration is governed by the States as per the provisions of the Prisons Act and Prison Mannuals framed by the respective States in accordance with their local conditions.

The Central Government has framed a Model Jail Manual which has been circulated among States/ Union Territories for their guidance. Suitable provisions have been made in the Model Jail Manual for staff development of Prison Officers and for taking care of the interest of jail inmates including women prisoners. Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) also organizes interactive courses for Prison Officers to sensitize them regarding human rights of prison inmates including women prisoners. A training programme is also organized for prison Officers on Human Rights in Prison Management.

Probe of Human Rights Violations in Gujarat by a US Judge

1614. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a factfinding delegation from US, headed by a federal district judge from New York, is currently on a visit to Gujarat for probing human rights violations in the recent past;

(b) whether the delegation had a series of meetings with family members of POTA detainees in Gujarat; and

(c) whether the delegation is scheduled to call on the National Human Rights Commission and to submit a copy of its findings on Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per information received from

the State Government of Gujarat, a federal district judge from New York and three others visited Gujarat on tourist visas issued by the Indian Embassy in USA. It is reported that the above persons attended a seminar organized by 'Jan Sangharsh Manch' and 'Aman Samuday', two Non Governmental Oganizations, in Ahmedabad on 22.1.2005. The seminar discussed, among other things, formation of an International association to save the people who have suffered due to alleged violation of human rights due to the misuse of various laws, in the light of enforcement of Patriot Act in USA and Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) in Gujarat, India to tackle militancy and terrorism. It has also been reported that the above persons met the family members of some of the accused in POTA cases after the meeting on the same day.

(c) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has not received any request in this regard.

Setting up of Disaster Management Authority

1615. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the nature and quantum of relief/rehabilitation measures provided by Government to Tsunami victims in the various States/State-wise;

(b) whether any Central monitoring agency has been set up by Government to ensure receipt of relief supplies by the victims;

(c) whether it is a fact that a suggestion has been made by the overseas Indians that their representative should be included in the agency to monitor utilisation of aid received from overseas; and

(d) the details of legislation to set up the Disaster Management Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Government of India have approved a special package of Rs. 3644.05 crore named as "Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for Tsunami affected areas" to provide assistance for immediate relief and response, revival of fishery and agriculture sectors, immediate construction of temporary (intermediate) shelters and repair/ restoration of infrastructure. The package for Tamil Nadu is Rs. 2347.19 crore, Andhra Pradesh-Rs. 70.00 crore, Kerala-Rs. 249.36 crore, Pondicherry-Rs. 155.62 crore, Andaman & Nicobar Islands-Rs. 821.88 crore.